

PRELIMINARY DRAFT

TEXAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
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Chapter 547A
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14 CHAPTER 547A. COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVES

15 Revised Law

16 Sec. 547A.0001. GRANTS FOR ESTABLISHING AND EXPANDING

17 COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVES. (a) To the extent money is appropriated

18 to the commission for that purpose, the commission shall make

19 grants to entities, including local governmental entities,

20 nonprofit community organizations, and faith-based community

21 organizations, to establish or expand community collaboratives

22 that bring the public and private sectors together to provide

23 services to individuals experiencing homelessness, substance use

24 issues, or mental illness. In awarding grants, the commission

25 shall give special consideration to entities:

26 (1) establishing new collaboratives; or

27 (2) establishing or expanding collaboratives that

1 serve two or more counties, each with a population of less than
2 100,000.

3 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (c), the commission
4 shall require each entity awarded a grant under this section to:

5 (1) leverage additional funding or in-kind
6 contributions from private contributors or local governments,
7 excluding state or federal money, in an amount that is at least
8 equal to the amount of the grant awarded under this section;

9 (2) provide evidence of significant coordination and
10 collaboration between the entity, local mental health authorities,
11 municipalities, local law enforcement agencies, and other
12 community stakeholders in establishing or expanding a community
13 collaborative funded by a grant awarded under this section; and

14 (3) provide evidence of a local law enforcement policy
15 to divert appropriate individuals from jails or other detention
16 facilities to an entity affiliated with a community collaborative
17 for the purpose of providing services to those individuals.

18 (c) The commission may award a grant under this section to
19 an entity for the purpose of establishing a community mental health
20 program in a county with a population of less than 250,000, if the
21 entity leverages additional funding or in-kind contributions from
22 private contributors or local governments, excluding state or
23 federal money, in an amount equal to one-quarter of the grant amount
24 to be awarded under this section, and the entity otherwise meets the
25 requirements of Subsections (b)(2) and (3). (Gov. Code, Sec.
26 539.002.)

27 Source Law

28 Sec. 539.002. GRANTS FOR ESTABLISHMENT AND
29 EXPANSION OF COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVES. (a) To the
30 extent funds are appropriated to the department for
31 that purpose, the department shall make grants to
32 entities, including local governmental entities,
33 nonprofit community organizations, and faith-based
34 community organizations, to establish or expand
35 community collaboratives that bring the public and
36 private sectors together to provide services to
37 persons experiencing homelessness, substance abuse
38 issues, or mental illness. In awarding grants, the
39 department shall give special consideration to
40 entities:

1 (1) establishing new collaboratives; or
2 (2) establishing or expanding
3 collaboratives that serve two or more counties, each
4 with a population of less than 100,000.

5 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (c), the
6 department shall require each entity awarded a grant
7 under this section to:

8 (1) leverage additional funding or in-kind
9 contributions from private contributors or local
10 governments, excluding state or federal funds, in an
11 amount that is at least equal to the amount of the
12 grant awarded under this section;

13 (2) provide evidence of significant
14 coordination and collaboration between the entity,
15 local mental health authorities, municipalities,
16 local law enforcement agencies, and other community
17 stakeholders in establishing or expanding a community
18 collaborative funded by a grant awarded under this
19 section; and

20 (3) provide evidence of a local law
21 enforcement policy to divert appropriate persons from
22 jails or other detention facilities to an entity
23 affiliated with a community collaborative for the
24 purpose of providing services to those persons.

25 (c) The department may award a grant under this
26 chapter to an entity for the purpose of establishing a
27 community mental health program in a county with a
28 population of less than 250,000, if the entity
29 leverages additional funding or in-kind contributions
30 from private contributors or local governments,
31 excluding state or federal funds, in an amount equal to
32 one-quarter of the amount of the grant to be awarded
33 under this section, and the entity otherwise meets the
34 requirements of Subsections (b)(2) and (3).

35 Revisor's Note

36 (1) Section 539.002(a), Government Code, refers
37 to "funds" appropriated to the Department of State
38 Health Services. Throughout this chapter, the revised
39 law substitutes "money" for "funds" because, in
40 context, the meaning is the same and "money" is the
41 more commonly used term.

42 (2) Section 539.002(a), Government Code,
43 authorizes the "department," meaning the Department of
44 State Health Services, to make grants to entities to
45 establish or expand community collaboratives. The
46 Department of State Health Services' client services
47 functions, including functions related to community
48 collaboratives, were transferred to the Health and
49 Human Services Commission in accordance with Section
50 531.0201(a)(2)(C), Government Code, which is executed
51 law that expires September 1, 2023. Therefore,

1 throughout this chapter the revised law substitutes
2 "commission" for "department."

3 (3) Sections 539.002(a) and (b), Government
4 Code, refer to "persons" experiencing homelessness,
5 substance abuse issues, or mental illness and
6 diverting appropriate "persons" from jails and other
7 detention facilities, respectively. Throughout this
8 chapter, the revised law substitutes "individual" for
9 "person" for clarity and consistency where the context
10 makes clear that the referenced person is a natural
11 person and not an entity described by the definition of
12 "person" provided by Section 311.005, Government Code
13 (Code Construction Act), which applies to this code.

14 (4) Section 539.002(a), Government Code, refers
15 to providing services for persons with "substance
16 abuse" issues. The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual
17 of Mental Disorders, 5th Edition (DSM-5), published by
18 the American Psychiatric Association to assist in
19 classifying mental disorders, combines the categories
20 of substance abuse and substance dependence into a
21 single disorder referred to as "substance use
22 disorder." Therefore, throughout this chapter the
23 revised law substitutes "substance use" for "substance
24 abuse" to reflect modern terminology.

25 (5) Section 539.002(c), Government Code, refers
26 to a grant provided to an entity "under this chapter."
27 For consistency of terminology and because the
28 specific authority to provide a grant is contained in
29 the revised section, the revised law substitutes
30 "section" for "chapter."

31 Revised Law

32 Sec. 547A.0002. ACCEPTABLE USES OF GRANT MONEY. An entity
33 shall use money received from a grant made by the commission and
34 private funding sources to establish or expand a community

1 collaborative. Acceptable uses for the money include:

2 (1) developing the infrastructure of the
3 collaborative and the start-up costs of the collaborative;

4 (2) establishing, operating, or maintaining other
5 community service providers in the community the collaborative
6 serves, including intake centers, detoxification units, sheltering
7 centers for food, workforce training centers, microbusinesses, and
8 educational centers;

9 (3) providing clothing, hygiene products, and medical
10 services to and arranging transitional and permanent residential
11 housing for individuals the collaborative serves;

12 (4) providing mental health services and substance use
13 treatment not readily available in the community the collaborative
14 serves;

15 (5) providing information, tools, and resource
16 referrals to assist individuals the collaborative serves in
17 addressing the needs of their children; and

18 (6) establishing and operating coordinated intake
19 processes, including triage procedures, to protect public safety in
20 the community the collaborative serves. (Gov. Code, Sec. 539.003.)

21 Source Law

22 Sec. 539.003. ACCEPTABLE USES OF GRANT
23 MONEY. An entity shall use money received from a
24 grant made by the department and private funding
25 sources for the establishment or expansion of a
26 community collaborative. Acceptable uses for the
27 money include:

28 (1) the development of the infrastructure
29 of the collaborative and the start-up costs of the
30 collaborative;

31 (2) the establishment, operation, or
32 maintenance of other community service providers in
33 the community served by the collaborative, including
34 intake centers, detoxification units, sheltering
35 centers for food, workforce training centers,
36 microbusinesses, and educational centers;

37 (3) the provision of clothing, hygiene
38 products, and medical services to and the arrangement
39 of transitional and permanent residential housing for
40 persons served by the collaborative;

41 (4) the provision of mental health
42 services and substance abuse treatment not readily
43 available in the community served by the
44 collaborative;

45 (5) the provision of information, tools,
46 and resource referrals to assist persons served by the

1 collaborative in addressing the needs of their
2 children; and
3 (6) the establishment and operation of
4 coordinated intake processes, including triage
5 procedures, to protect the public safety in the
6 community served by the collaborative.

7 Revised Law

8 Sec. 547A.0003. ELEMENTS OF COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVES. (a)

9 If appropriate, an entity may incorporate into the community
10 collaborative the entity operates the use of the homeless
11 management information system, transportation plans, and case
12 managers. An entity may also consider incorporating into a
13 collaborative mentoring and volunteering opportunities, strategies
14 to assist homeless youth and homeless families with children,
15 strategies to reintegrate individuals who were recently
16 incarcerated into the community, services for veterans, and
17 strategies for individuals the collaborative serves to participate
18 in the planning, governance, and oversight of the collaborative.

19 (b) The focus of a community collaborative shall be the
20 eventual successful transition of individuals from receiving
21 services from the collaborative to becoming integrated into the
22 community the collaborative serves through community relationships
23 and family supports. (Gov. Code, Sec. 539.004.)

24 Source Law

25 Sec. 539.004. ELEMENTS OF COMMUNITY
26 COLLABORATIVES. (a) If appropriate, an entity may
27 incorporate into the community collaborative operated
28 by the entity the use of the Homeless Management
29 Information System, transportation plans, and case
30 managers. An entity may also consider incorporating
31 into a collaborative mentoring and volunteering
32 opportunities, strategies to assist homeless youth and
33 homeless families with children, strategies to
34 reintegrate persons who were recently incarcerated
35 into the community, services for veterans, and
36 strategies for persons served by the collaborative to
37 participate in the planning, governance, and oversight
38 of the collaborative.

39 (b) The focus of a community collaborative shall
40 be the eventual successful transition of persons from
41 receiving services from the collaborative to becoming
42 integrated into the community served by the
43 collaborative through community relationships and
44 family supports.

45 Revised Law

46 Sec. 547A.0004. OUTCOME MEASURES FOR COMMUNITY

1 COLLABORATIVES. Each entity that receives a grant from the
2 commission to establish or expand a community collaborative shall
3 select at least four of the following outcome measures that the
4 entity will focus on meeting through implementing and operating the
5 collaborative:

6 (1) individuals the collaborative serves finding
7 employment that results in those individuals having incomes that
8 are at or above 100 percent of the federal poverty level;

9 (2) individuals the collaborative serves finding
10 permanent housing;

11 (3) individuals the collaborative serves completing
12 alcohol or substance use programs;

13 (4) the collaborative helping to start social
14 businesses in the community or engaging in job creation, job
15 training, or other workforce development activities;

16 (5) a decrease in the use of jail beds by individuals
17 the collaborative serves;

18 (6) a decrease in the need for emergency care by
19 individuals the collaborative serves;

20 (7) a decrease in the number of children whose
21 families lack adequate housing referred to the Department of Family
22 and Protective Services or a local entity responsible for child
23 welfare; and

24 (8) any other appropriate outcome measure the
25 commission approves that measures whether a collaborative is
26 meeting a specific need of the community the collaborative serves.
27 (Gov. Code, Sec. 539.005.)

28 Source Law

29 Sec. 539.005. OUTCOME MEASURES FOR COMMUNITY
30 COLLABORATIVES. Each entity that receives a grant
31 from the department to establish or expand a community
32 collaborative shall select at least four of the
33 following outcome measures that the entity will focus
34 on meeting through the implementation and operation of
35 the collaborative:

36 (1) persons served by the collaborative
37 will find employment that results in those persons
38 having incomes that are at or above 100 percent of the
39 federal poverty level;

1 (2) persons served by the collaborative
2 will find permanent housing;

3 (3) persons served by the collaborative
4 will complete alcohol or substance abuse programs;

5 (4) the collaborative will help start
6 social businesses in the community or engage in job
7 creation, job training, or other workforce development
8 activities;

9 (5) there will be a decrease in the use of
10 jail beds by persons served by the collaborative;

11 (6) there will be a decrease in the need
12 for emergency care by persons served by the
13 collaborative;

14 (7) there will be a decrease in the number
15 of children whose families lack adequate housing
16 referred to the Department of Family and Protective
17 Services or a local entity responsible for child
18 welfare; and

19 (8) any other appropriate outcome measure
20 that measures whether a collaborative is meeting a
21 specific need of the community served by the
22 collaborative and that is approved by the department.

23 Revisor's Note

24 Section 539.005, Government Code, refers to an
25 alcohol "abuse" program. The Diagnostic and
26 Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th Edition
27 (DSM-5), published by the American Psychiatric
28 Association to assist in classifying mental disorders,
29 combines the categories of alcohol abuse and alcohol
30 dependence into a single disorder referred to as
31 "alcohol use disorder." Therefore, the revised law
32 substitutes "use" for "abuse" to reflect modern
33 terminology.

34 Revised Law

35 Sec. 547A.0005. PLAN REQUIRED FOR CERTAIN COMMUNITY
36 COLLABORATIVES. (a) The governing body of a county shall develop
37 and make public a plan detailing the method by which:

38 (1) local mental health authorities, municipalities,
39 local law enforcement agencies, and other community stakeholders in
40 the county may coordinate to establish or expand a community
41 collaborative to accomplish the goals of Section 547A.0001;

42 (2) entities in the county may leverage funding from
43 private sources to accomplish the goals of Section 547A.0001
44 through the formation or expansion of a community collaborative;
45 and

1 (3) the formation or expansion of a community
2 collaborative may establish or support resources or services to
3 help local law enforcement agencies to divert individuals who have
4 been arrested to appropriate mental health care or substance use
5 treatment.

6 (b) The governing body of a county in which an entity that
7 received a grant under former Section 539.002 before September 1,
8 2017, is located is not required to develop a plan under Subsection
9 (a).

10 (c) Two or more counties, each with a population of less
11 than 100,000, may form a joint plan under Subsection (a). (Gov.
12 Code, Sec. 539.0051.)

13 Source Law

14 Sec. 539.0051. PLAN REQUIRED FOR CERTAIN
15 COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVES. (a) The governing body of
16 a county shall develop and make public a plan
17 detailing:

18 (1) how local mental health authorities,
19 municipalities, local law enforcement agencies, and
20 other community stakeholders in the county could
21 coordinate to establish or expand a community
22 collaborative to accomplish the goals of Section
23 539.002;

24 (2) how entities in the county may
25 leverage funding from private sources to accomplish
26 the goals of Section 539.002 through the formation or
27 expansion of a community collaborative; and

28 (3) how the formation or expansion of a
29 community collaborative could establish or support
30 resources or services to help local law enforcement
31 agencies to divert persons who have been arrested to
32 appropriate mental health care or substance abuse
33 treatment.

34 (b) The governing body of a county in which an
35 entity that received a grant under Section 539.002
36 before September 1, 2017, is located is not required to
37 develop a plan under Subsection (a).

38 (c) Two or more counties, each with a population
39 of less than 100,000, may form a joint plan under
40 Subsection (a).

41 Revised Law

42 Sec. 547A.0006. ANNUAL REVIEW OF OUTCOME MEASURES. The
43 commission shall contract with an independent third party to verify
44 annually whether a community collaborative is meeting the outcome
45 measures the entity that operates the collaborative selects under
46 Section 547A.0004. (Gov. Code, Sec. 539.006.)

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chapter, "department" means the Department
of State Health Services.